

#### NATIONAL OFFICERS

Joseph Bruner, President,  
Sapulpa, Oklahoma  
John E. Curran, 1st Vice-President,  
Tuman, Arizona  
Winslow J. Couro, 2nd Vice-President,  
Santa Ysabel, California  
W. E. McIntosh, Secretary,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
J. C. Lipe, Treasurer,  
Claremore, Oklahoma  
Rev. Floyd O. Burnett, Chaplain,  
Galt, California  
Rev. Garfield Driver, Asst. Chaplain,  
Little Eagle, S. Dak.

# The American Indian Federation

(INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF OKLAHOMA, MARCH 31, 1939)

*A national non-partisan, non-sectarian educational  
organization to teach the fairness and economic  
justice of a final settlement between the  
Indians and the Federal Government.*



HEADQUARTERS

BOX 174

SAPULPA, OKLAHOMA

Dec. 7, 1945.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

John W. McCracken, Chairman,  
Nowata, Oklahoma  
O. K. Chandler, Secretary,  
Miami, Oklahoma  
Judge N. B. Johnson, Claremore, Oklahoma  
Mrs. Juliette Riggs, Tulsa, Oklahoma  
S. R. Lewis, Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Mrs. R. C. Farris, Tulsa, Oklahoma  
William M. Newton, Muskogee, Oklahoma  
H. C. Walkley, Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Ben Carpenter, Skiatook, Oklahoma  
Walter Colbert, Norman, Oklahoma  
L. M. Burgess, Paradise, Montana

Hon. Geo B. Schwabe, M. C.,  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

*Joseph Bruner*

Dear Congressman Schwabe:

Thanks for your letter of September 18, 1945.

It seems unbelievable that once a colonial policy was to hunt down Indians with dogs; trade for their peltry blankets inoculated with smallpox germs; pay cash bounties for detached Indian heads; that the first generation from Miles Standish killed and murdered the tribe of Massasoit almost to the last man, woman and child; that a minister of the gospel hired a renegade Injun to boil the body and knaw the bones of King Phillip, son of Massasoit, on the public square of Plymouth; that DeGraffenreid, speaking of an account by Col. Barnwell with the Tuskaroras, said "he marched against a great Indian village, called Core, about 30 miles distant from Newbern, drove out the King and his forces with such fury, that, after they had killed a great many, in order to stimulate themselves still more, they cooked the flesh of an Indian in good condition and ate it."

I repeat, these facts seem unbelievable.

Approximately 100 years ago the United States inaugurated a great humanitarian policy of Indian removal, touching some fifty or more Indian tribes then east of the Mississippi river. Indians by the thousands were dispossessed of their property without compensation, and driven, in the dead of winter, on foot, more than a thousand miles, into a wilderness; that one tribe of 16,000, lost 4,000 souls in this removal; that the buzzards followed their trail by day and the wolves by night - soldiers would not permit them time in which to bury their dead.

I repeat, these facts seem unbelievable.

Within the past twelve years the Indian bureau, through representation to the Congress that it had 400,000 Indians under its direction and supervision, received approximately \$600,000,000 for its maintenance and support - notwithstanding of the assumed 400,000 Indians under bureau supervision, approximately 300,000 did not know the bureau existed.

I repeat, these facts seem unbelievable.

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L. M. Burgess, Paradise, Montana

In World War I the outstanding soldier from Oklahoma was a full-blood Choctaw Indian; in World War II the outstanding soldier from Oklahoma is a fullblood Indian of the Creek tribe; a fullblood Indian helped to raise the first American Flag on Iwo Jima - "the most costly fight in which the Marines have ever engaged, a fight that cost 5,372 American casualties, including 644 dead, in the first three days"; that the first Yank into the heart of Berlin was a fullblood Ute Indian, and the first Yank into Tokyo was a mixed-blood Cherokee Indian from Oklahoma. I am not positive but almost certain, that the highest ranking officer from Oklahoma to lose his life in ACTUAL COMBAT - or otherwise - in World War II, was Major General Tinker, an Osage Indian.

I repeat, these facts seem unbelievable.

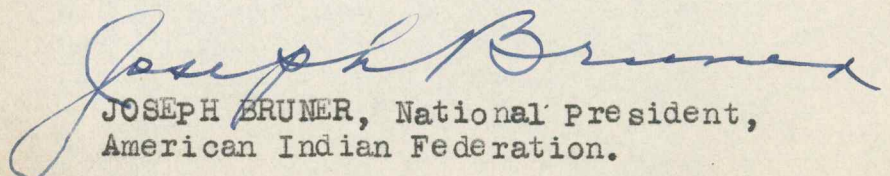
Indians of course are not going to ask for the country back, we do feel, however, that before the United States enters a third world war to establish democracy and the four freedoms on the back and front porch of the upstanding and downtrodden around the world, that it make some arrangements to adjust certain conditions touching the Indians - wards of the government - here at home. About 300,000 of us deserve to be forever released from our federal nursemaids - we wish a final and complete settlement with the federal government.

We have earned this right, don't you think?

I appreciate, as you point out, that Indian claims have an "ancient background", but not of a type justifying the useless expenditure of millions of dollars annually of the taxpayers' hard earned cash in an assumed bureau service to some 300,000 Indians who scarcely know the bureau exists - its services are not requested by the Indians, not received by them, not a consideration of any treaty agreement with the government, and is a duplication of rights or services Indians enjoy as American citizens of the communities of which they are now a part.

With the Season's Greetings and personal regards,

Most sincerely,

  
JOSEPH BRUNER, National President,  
American Indian Federation.

JB/c  
encls.

## RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Fifth district of the American Indian Federation, in called session, in the Will Rogers Hotel, Claremore, Oklahoma, that we unanimously approve the action of the Administrative Board of the federation in its disapproval of a claims commission and its subsequent action approving Senate Joint Resolution 79, which joint resolution proposes the creation of a joint committee of the Congress to investigate useless functions of the Indian bureau and effect a final settlement of Indian claims.

(a) A claims commission, in the light of past experience, will effect no immediate recovery for the Indians - it has now spent twelve years of unsuccessful effort of self-establishment by the Congress. It presupposes, and with absolute approval, the continuance of useless bureau functions at the cost of millions of dollars annually to the American taxpayer.

(b) A joint committee of the Congress as proposed through Joint Resolution No. 79, should be able to discover and develop, in less than one year, Indian bureau uselessness and subterfuge in the obtaining through the Congress of millions of dollars annually - approximately \$600,000,000 within the past twelve years - for the maintenance and support of the bureau. Within the same period of time it should be able to discover the utter hopelessness of the Indians or the government, through court action or a claims commission, of ever establishing DEFINITELY and with ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY, the difference between the Indians and the government on account of violated treaties, land seizures without treaty or contract, and mistreatments of the past.

Having arrived at these two important conclusions, such committee may then easily appraise future bureau needs, if any really ever existed, for further federal government supervision of the Indian - approximately 300,000 - who have long since outgrown bureau tutelage or supervision, or knowledge of present bureau existence, and settle with them finally and forever.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be mailed to the Oklahoma Delegation in Congress and each member of the Senate and House Indian Committees.

Unanimously adopted, this 20th day of November, 1946.

*W. E. McIntosh*  
W. E. McIntosh, Fifth district  
president, American Indian  
Federation.

Attest:

*Kathryn Chandler*  
Kathryn Chandler, Secy. Fifth  
district, American Indian Federation.

COMPLIMENTS OF  
**FIRST NATIONAL BANK**  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

COMPLIMENTS  
**First National Bank of Miami**  
RESOURCES \$7,900,000  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

**CALLED MEETING**  
—OF—  
**FIRST DISTRICT MEMBERS**  
(KANSAS-OKLAHOMA)

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**NOVEMBER 20, 1945**  
**Hotel Will Rogers**  
**CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA**

**DON B. EVERSOLE**  
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE  
FAMILY CASH DRAFT CONTRACTS  
HEALTH, ACCIDENT AND LIFE  
Room 204 Mining Exchange Building  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

COMPLIMENTS  
**WILL ROGERS DRUG STORE**  
HOTEL WILL ROGERS  
PHONE 327 — CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

COMPLIMENTS  
**COLLINS DRUG STORE**  
Claremore, Oklahoma

COMPLIMENTS  
**PLANNETT CLEANERS**  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

### PROGRAM

Registration, 10 A. M.  
Invocation ----- Rev. Jim Pickup  
Salute to Flag  
Song, "God Bless America" ----- Ensemble  
Opening ----- W. E. McIntosh,  
District President  
Appointment of Resolution Committee  
Adjourn for Lunch

COMPLIMENTS  
**WALKER DEPT. STORE**  
PHONE 60  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

TSCHAUNER-LEEDS  
**REXALL DRUG STORE**  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA  
407 West Third St. Telephone 45

COMPLIMENTS OF  
**COYNE LUMBER CO.**  
PHONE 266  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

**GENE JOHNSON**  
**SALES AND SERVICE**  
24 Hour Service — Storage  
Highway 66 and Main Street — Telephone 1022  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

COMPLIMENTS  
**WILSON HARDWARE**  
PHONE 258  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

COMPLIMENTS  
**J. C. PENNEY COMPANY**  
SHOP AND SAVE  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

**BAKER'S CAFE**  
FAMOUS FOR CHICKEN DINNERS K. C. STEAKS  
HOME MADE COFFEE—POPULAR PRICES  
HIGHWAYS 60—66—69—DAY AND NIGHT  
AFTON, OKLAHOMA — TELEPHONE 120

**Miami Home & Auto Supply**  
**FIRESTONE**  
The Mark of Quality and Symbol of Service  
6 South Main — Telephone 733  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

### PROGRAM

Call to Order 1:15 P. M. ----- President McIntosh  
Music ----- Cherokee Singers  
Address ----- O. K. Armstrong  
Report of Resolution Committee  
Discussion  
Star Spangled Banner, one verse  
Adjourn  
Payment of Dues

COMPLIMENTS  
**DR. FRED E. MAYBERRY**  
411 West Second Street, Claremore  
1131 South Harvard, Tulsa  
Tel. 51, Claremore 66519 Tulsa

COMPLIMENTS  
**VINSON DRUG COMPANY**  
83—PHONES—84  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

**BILL BAILEY'S**  
**Mason Hotel Coffee Shop**  
**JUST GOOD FOOD**  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

**DAWSON JEWELRY**  
The House of Fine Diamonds and Watches  
40 N. Main—Telephone 262  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

EAT AT  
**ELMER'S GRILL**  
GOOD FOOD—HONEST PRICES  
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

**B. & K. CLOTHING CO.**  
MIAMI, OKLAHOMA  
**FINE CLOTHING**  
KNOX HATS — ARROW SHIRTS  
FLORSHEIM SHOES — INERWOVEN HOSE  
NOCANA COWBOY BOOTS

COMPLIMENTS

**Paulger-Johnson Motor Co.**

CERTIFIED CONOCO SERVICE

CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA — PHONE 1

**FARRIER'S GROCERY**

EVERY DAY LOW PRICES

MIAMI, OKLAHOMA

**'GREETINGS TO OUR MEMBERS:—**

Within the past 150 years Indians of the United States have litigated through the courts of the nation, \$1,500,000,000 in claims against the government, recovering \$28,000,000 which is less than fifty cents per capita per year for 400,000 Indians, the number of Indians which the Indian Bureau estimates are in the United States today.

Within the past TWELVE years the Indian Bureau, using the 400,000 Indians as the excuse for bureau appropriations, has caused Congress to appropriate and turn over to it, approximately \$600,000,000—a sum sufficient to have paid each of the 400,000 Indians \$1,500.

Three hundred thousand of the 400,000 Indians which the bureau claims to have under its directoin or supervision do not know that the bureau exists, yet the bureau used them in it's game of subterfuge in extracting these millions from the pockets of the taxpayers—through Congress.

We say this farce—crime is the more exact word—should end through the application of common honesty and common sense in the closing of the books of the federal government as to at LEAST 300,000 Indians.

There is nothing wrong with the Indian, intellectually or physically. He is capable of standing on his own feet if he elects to do so. IF he elects NOT to do so, as in the case of any other citizen, the government is not at fault.

If the Indians, particularly our members, keep their eye on the fox and are not drawn to the chase of every Indian Bureau rabbit which may cross our path carrying a claims commission bill or a sickle and hammer as a tail-light, and religiously follow our ORIGINAL objective—FINAL AND IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT OF ALL INDIAN CLAIMS as to approximately 300,000 Indians, forever releasing them from further useless federal government supervision or tutelage,

**WE WILL SUCCEED.**

World War II is at an end—we hope, and for which we give praise to God. The play now is at home on the home team. It should and must be in the interest of all. The Indian and the white taxpayer are eually concerned in our program and will play ball with each other once they become informed—and that is our task, "INFORMING THE PUBLIC."

—Joseph Bruner, National President,  
American Indian Federation

**"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Remember our advertisers. We vouch for their honesty and quality of merchandise.**